

Italian Grammar Guide

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Senior Missionary Language Training

Instructions to Language Tutors and Missionaries

The objective of the language tutoring program for senior missionaries is to enable them, and others, to begin communicating meaningfully as early as possible in their mission language. In order to help accomplish this objective, this grammar guide provides a focus on only the most basic grammatical structures of the language for those who are studying the language for the first time. By limiting the focus of the missionaries to the basic concepts outlined in this guide, seniors will be able to concentrate their energy and attention on doing a few things very well, rather than trying to cover everything. The content of this guide has been prepared to enable seniors to communicate the following in their mission language:

- Asking about and Expressing a State of Being
- Asking about and Expressing Possession
- Asking about and Describing Objects and People
- Asking about and Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, and Intention
- Asking about and Describing Simple Actions and Events
- Asking and Answering Questions of Time, Place and Purpose
- Narrating Simple Experiences and Stories

The lessons are designed to insure that the missionaries can communicate each of the above concepts under the following three conditions:

- 1) using both questions and answers
- 2) in the simplest forms of the present, past, and future
- 3) in both the affirmative and the negative

Lesson sequence to be followed: It is recommended that the grammar lessons be studied in the sequence that they appear in this guide.

Teach and practice from the visual displays: Use the visual displays in this document for practice during tutoring sessions. They are designed to provide a “visual connection” between tutor and learner, especially when on the telephone. The visual nature of the displays is intended to eliminate much of the need for grammar rules, by “showing” rather than “explaining”.

Refer when necessary to the language text: For each lesson in this document, missionaries and tutors may refer to the designated language text whenever necessary to answer questions they may have regarding the grammar, and should continue to refer to it once they are in the field.

Pace for moving through this grammar guide: There is no need to move too quickly through the lessons. Time should be spent on building confidence in using the structures in each lesson before moving on. Spend the necessary time increasing vocabulary and reviewing previous lessons before moving too quickly ahead. The lessons will build on each other as you move through the sequence.

Use a variety of activities: It is not necessary to cover a “new lesson” in each tutoring session. Missionaries will gain more confidence when they are given the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities on the same principle. This will more likely insure that they are not only mastering concepts and structures as they go, but that they have ample opportunity to review and maintain their confidence in all past lesson material. Tutors should plan and conduct many “communicative” language-type activities as part of their tutoring, including the performance of “tasks”, which are studied separately.

Speak the language: Speak the language at every opportunity. An explanation here and there may be necessary in English, but missionaries need ample opportunity to “see themselves communicating in the language”. This will build their confidence more than anything else. Tutors should limit their own use of the language to the structures and vocabulary that the missionaries have learned up to that point, so as to increase the likelihood of their success in listening and responding in the language during tutoring sessions.

Organize note-taking: When missionaries have questions on particular grammatical structures, they should write any notes in the margins of the text or on the visual display sheets of this document where that particular principle is located. By doing so, their notes will be automatically organized for future reference, because they will be written on the pages which deal with that principle.

Use a pocket notebook for vocabulary: Vocabulary items should be written in an organized way in a small, pocket-sized notebook, which can be carried with them for easy reference while speaking the language. Keep two separate lists for easy access; one of verbs, and the other for general vocabulary items. For example, keep a list of verbs in the front of the notebook, and a list of all other vocabulary items in the back. Write in the language on the left side of the page, with the English equivalent on the right side. This makes for easy review by covering either one or the other side of the list.

Use vocabulary notebook for review: Not having easy access to one’s notes is one of the most frustrating hindrances of note taking, and thus of systematic review. By using the vocabulary notebooks, missionaries can be much more successful in their review because they can always be working from a current, up-to-date list. Be selective at first. Don’t try to remember or write everything down. Select those vocabulary items / verbs that you will use most frequently and build from there.

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1. Overview of The Language

- Italian has, pretty much, the same basic word order as English, except in Italian adjectives and adverbs generally follow the words they modify.
- Unlike English, Italian words are always masculine or feminine, which affects other parts of speech. In order to determine the gender of a word it is helpful to look at the ending of the word itself. The following box summarizes the possible endings and the number & gender associated with them; for example the word *palazzo* ends in -o so it is masculine and singular, the word *mamma* ends in -a so it is feminine singular. As an exception, there are some singular words that end in -e (plural in -i) that can either be masculine or feminine.

<u>Endings</u>		
	<i>masc.</i>	<i>fem.</i>
<i>sing.</i>	-o	-a
<i>plur.</i>	-i	-e

What is a noun?

- Person, place, or thing.
- In Italian nouns are either masculine or feminine.

What is a verb?

- Words that show action. (Examples to eat, to dance, etc).

What is an infinitive verb?

- The dictionary form of the verb; un-conjugated. (*Ex: to speak, to eat, to live*)
 - In Italian infinitives always end in **-are, -ere, or -ire**
- Examples of infinitives: parlare (to speak), volere (to want), dormire (to sleep).*

- Each verb ending follows a pattern which agrees with the subject of the verb.
- The verb endings below are for the regular present tense.

are

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>1st</i>	-o	-iamo
	-i	-ate
<i>2nd</i>	-a	
	-----	-----
<i>3rd</i>	-a	-ano

ere

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>1st</i>	-o	-iamo
	-i	-ete
<i>2nd</i>	-e	
	-----	-----
<i>3rd</i>	-e	-ono

ire

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
<i>1st</i>	-o	-iamo
	-i	-ite
<i>2nd</i>	-e	
	-----	-----
<i>3rd</i>	-e	-ono

- To conjugate the verb, remove the **-are, -ere, or -ire** ending from the infinitive and add the appropriate endings that corresponds with the desired subject, as shown in the boxes above.

1. Overview of The Language – Continued

What is an adjective?

- Describes a noun. Examples: the cat has a **beautiful** tail. (The word “beautiful” describes the tail, so it is an adjective); the **White** House is in Washington D.C. (The word “white” describes the house so it is an adjective)
- Because nouns are either masculine or feminine, adjectives (and articles) must agree with the noun in both gender (masc. or fem.) and number (singular or plural).

Examples:

The tall (male) missionary: **Il** missionario alto.

The tall (female) missionary: **La** missionaria alta.

What is a subject?

- The subject of a sentence is the person or thing that performs the action of the sentence. (Examples: **I** eat, **she** studies, the **president** interviews, the **missionaries** teach, etc) note that in Italian it is not necessary to express the subject every time as you do in English, verbs conjugation help the audience understand who is the subject.

2. Alphabet and Basic Pronunciation

- Learn the alphabet and basic elements of pronunciation so that you can begin to read in the language.

LETTER	SOUND	PRONUNCIATION
A	<i>Always as a short English a, as in cat, fact, or like the o in how, cloud.</i>	<i>Ballo</i>
B	<i>Always as English b.</i>	<i>Bacio</i>
C	<i>As English k, except when the following vowel is e or i, in which case it sounds as English ch in chest, chip.</i>	<i>Casa, Celeste</i>
D	<i>Always as English d.</i>	<i>Dado</i>
E	<i>Depending on the word, it may sound either as English a in hay, layer, may, or as English e in send, tent, hen.</i>	<i>Piede</i>
F	<i>Always as English f in fame, knife, flute, but never like of.</i>	<i>Fame</i>
G	<i>As English g in gravel, goblet, except in three cases:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>when followed by vowels e and i, it sounds as English j in jelly, jigsaw;</i>• <i>when followed by n, forming cluster gn</i>• <i>when followed by l, forming cluster gl</i>	<i>Gallo, Gelato, Gnocchi, Aglio</i>
H	<i>Always soundless; it is therefore used as a mere graphic spelling in very few words.</i>	<i>Hotel</i>
I	<i>It always sounds as English y in yellow, troyan. A similar sound is that of English ee in fleet, seem, but the length of the Italian sound is shorter.</i>	<i>amico</i>
L	<i>Always as English l.</i>	<i>Luna</i>
M	<i>Always as English m.</i>	<i>Mamma</i>
N	<i>Always as English n.</i>	<i>Nonno</i>
O	<i>Always as English o, in some case with a "narrow" or "closed" sound as in blow, soul, row, or sometimes with a "wide" or "open" sound as in cloth, spot, dog.</i>	<i>Pollo</i>
P	<i>Always as English p.</i>	<i>Papà</i>

Q	<i>Always as English q, it is always followed by vowel u.</i>	<i>Quaderno</i>
R	<i>The sound is always "rolled", like a Scottish r in Edinburgh, or a Spanish r in señor. It never sounds as an English r or a French r.</i>	<i>Rosario</i>
S	<i>As English s, sometimes strong as in strip, fuss, sometimes weak as in easy, abuse.</i>	<i>Asino, Salsa</i>
T	<i>Always as English t.</i>	<i>Terra</i>
U	<i>Pronounced "oo" like the "u" in the English tune.</i>	<i>Upupa</i>
V	<i>Always as English v.</i>	<i>Viola</i>
Z	<i>It sounds either as an English ds in godzilla, or as ts in cats.</i>	<i>Zanzara</i>

Note: Establish and maintain regular daily reading exercises from Gospel Principles Manual, Scriptures, the Liahona, and / or the Hymns, for pronunciation and comprehension purposes.

3. Asking About / Expressing a State of Being

- *State of being happy, grateful, sad, tired, rested, etc.*
- *Roles, nationality, profession, occupation, etc.*

Essere = to be

	<u>Singular</u> non*	<u>Plural</u> non*		
1 st	io ^ sono <i>I am</i>	noi ^ siamo <i>we are</i>		
2 nd	tu ^ sei <i>you are</i> Lei è <i>you are</i>	voi ^ siete <i>you are</i>	+	
3 rd	lui ^ è <i>he is</i> lei è <i>she is</i>	loro ^ sono <i>they are</i>		

-religioso / a	(religious)
-americano / a	(American)
-italiano / a	(Italian)
-missionario / a	(missionary)
-contento / a	(content / happy)
-grato / a	(grateful)
-stanco / a	(tired)
-triste	(sad)
-medico	(doctor)
-fratello...	(brother...)
-sorella ...	(sister ...)
-anziano...	(elder...)
-rappresentante della Chiesa di Gesù Cristo dei Santi degli Ultimi Giorni	(Representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)

Examples:

Q. **Lei è religioso?** A. **Sì, io sono religioso.** A. **No, Io non sono religioso.**
Are you religious? Yes, I'm religious. No, I'm not religious.

*Negative: Forming the negative is accomplished by simply adding “non” before the verb.
Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

4. Asking About / Expressing Possession – Part 1

- Do you have ____? Yes, I have _____. No, I don't have _____.

Avere = to have

<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>		
non*		non*		
1 st	io ^ ho <i>I have</i>	noi ^ abbiamo <i>we have</i>		
non*		non*		
2 nd	tu ^ hai <i>you have</i>	voi ^ avete <i>you have</i>	+	-la / una penna <i>(the / a pen)</i>
	Lei ha <i>you have</i>			-il / un fratello <i>(the / a brother)</i>
				-la / una famiglia <i>(the / a family)</i>
non*		non*		-la / una festa <i>(the / a party)</i>
3 rd	lui ^ ha <i>he has</i>	loro ^ hanno <i>they have</i>		-il / un battesimo <i>(the / a baptism)</i>
	lei ha <i>she has</i>			-lo / uno specchio <i>(the / a mirror)</i>
				-sete <i>(thirst)</i>
				-fame <i>(hunger)</i>
				-freddo <i>(cold)</i>
				-caldo <i>(warm)</i>
				-sonno <i>(sleep)</i>

Examples:

Q. Tu hai fame?
Are you hungry?

A. Sì io ho fame.
Yes, I'm hungry

A. No, io non ho fame.
No, I'm not hungry.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

Articles

the =		<u>singular</u>	<u>plural</u>	a / an =	<u>singular</u>		
<u>masculine</u>		il (lo)	i (gli)	un, (uno)		<u>no plural</u>	- il / un bambino <i>(the / a baby)</i>
							-lo / uno specchio <i>(the / a mirror)</i>
							-la / una banana <i>(the / a banana)</i>
<u>feminine</u>		la	le	una			-un signore <i>(a man)</i>
							-un tempio <i>(a temple)</i>
							-una sorella <i>(a sister)</i>

Use **uno, lo** and **gli** in front of masculine nouns which begin with *gl, pn, s + consonant, z, or ps*.

- **lo zaino** *(the backpack)*
- **gli spaghetti** *(spaghetti)*

Use **l'** with any noun that begins with a vowel and **un'** with femin. noun that begins with a vowel

- **l'amica** *(the friend)*, **un'amica** *(a friend)*
- **l'ospite** *(the guest)*, **un ospite** *(a guest)*

5. Asking About / Expressing Possession – Part 2

- Do you have ... ? my ..., his ..., your ..., their ..., etc.
- Yes, we have ... / No, we don't have ...

Q. Lei ha ... ? <i>Do you have...?</i>		masc. sing.	fem. sing.	masc. plur.	fem. plur.		-libro (m) (book)
	my	il mio	la mia	i miei	le mie		-quaderno (m) (notebook)
A. Sì, io ho... <i>Yes, I have...</i>	your	il tuo	la tua	i tuoi	le tue	+	-scritture (f) (scriptures)
	his / her	il suo	la sua	i suoi	le sue		-dizionario (m) (dictionary)
A. No, io non ho... <i>No, I don't have...</i>	our	il nostro	la nostra	i nostri	le nostre		-matita (f) (pencil)
	your	il vostro	la vostra	i vostri	le vostre		-sedia (f) (chair)
Q. Loro hanno ...? <i>Do they have ...?</i>	their	il loro	la loro	i loro	le loro		-insegnante (m/f) (teacher)
A. No, loro non hanno <i>No, they don't have...</i>							-collega (m) (companion)
							-vicino / a (neighbor)
							-presidente (m) (president)
							-penne (f) (pens)
							-amico/ a (friend)
							-lezioni (m) (lessons)

Examples:

Q. Tu hai il tuo libro? *Do you have your book?*
A. Sì, io ho il mio libro. *Yes, I do have my book.*
A. No, io non ho il mio libro. *No, I don't have my book.*

Remember that in Italian the possessive adjective agrees in gender and number with the **thing owned** and not with the possessor like in English, and also that in Italian you always put the article before the possessive (ex. the my dog, the your book, etc.)

il mio amico (my friend)

la mia amica (my girl friend)

i miei figli (my sons)

il nostro simpatizzante (our investigator)

il tuo Libro di Mormon (your Book of Mormon)

6. Asking About / Describing Objects and People

- What is this / that? -This / that is ..., Those are ...
- Who is this / that? -This / that is ...
- Is this / that ...? Are these / those ...? -Yes, this / that is ..., No, that is not ...

Q.	Chi <i>Who</i>	è <i>(is)</i>	+	quest- <i>(this / these)</i>	+	(sing) o	(fem) a	?	-la / una Bibbia <i>(the / a Bible)</i>
	Cosa <i>What</i>	sono <i>(are)</i>		quell- <i>(that / those)</i>		(plur) i	e		-fratello / sorella ____ <i>(brother / Sister ____)</i>
									-il mio collega <i>(my companion)</i>
									-i nostri figli <i>(our children)</i>
									-i miei pantaloni <i>(my pair of trousers)</i>
									-una / la vostra cravatta <i>(a / your necktie)</i>
									-una sorella <i>(a sister)</i>
									-un missionario <i>(a missionary)</i>
									-due scarpe <i>(two shoes)</i>
									-il mio Libro di Mormon <i>(my B of M)</i>
A.									-la tua penna <i>(your pen)</i>
	quest- <i>(this / these)</i>			(sing) o	(fem) a			è <i>(is)</i>	-i nostri libri <i>(our books)</i>
		+		(plur) i	e	+	sono <i>(are)</i>	+	
	quell- <i>(that / those)</i>								

Examples:

Q. Chi è quello?
Who is that?

A. Quello è il mio collega.
That is my companion.

Q. Cosa sono questi?
What are these?

A. Questi sono i nostri libri.
These are our books.

Q. Questi sono i nostri figli?
Are these our children?

A. Sì questi sono i nostri figli.
Yes, these are our children.

A. No, questi non sono i nostri figli.
No, these are not our children.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

7. Asking / Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, Intention – Part 1

- *To want*

Volere = to want (to)

<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>		
	non*	non		
1 st	io ^ voglio	noi ^ vogliamo		
	<i>I want</i>	<i>we want</i>		
			+	
	non	non		
2 nd	tu ^ vuoi	voi ^ volete		
	<i>you want</i>	<i>you want</i>		
	Lei vuole			
	<i>You want</i>			
	non	non		
3 rd	lui ^ vuole	loro ^ vogliono		
	<i>he wants</i>	<i>they want</i>		
	lei ^ vuole			
	<i>she wants</i>			

-una mela (an apple)
 -la tua penna (your pen)
 -il suo libro (her book)
 -la mia matita (my pencil)
 -la sua Bibbia (his Bible)
 -il vostro Libro di Mormon (your B of M)
 -i suoi vicini (your neighbors)
 -le vostre case (your homes)
 -i nostri amici (our friends)
 -partire (to leave)
 -andare (to go)
 -mangiare (to eat)
 -dormire (to sleep)
 -studiare (to study)

Examples:

- Q. **Voi volete studiare la Bibbia?** A. **Sì, noi vogliamo studiare.** A. **No, non vogliamo studiare.**
Do you want to study the Bible? Yes, we want to study. No, we don't want to study.
- Q. **Cosa vogliono loro?** A. **Loro vogliono studiare!**
What do they want? They want to study!

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

8. Asking / Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, Intention – Part 2

- To like (to)...

Piacere = to like (to)

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>			
1 st	non a me ^ to me	non a noi ^ to us		-piace likes / pleases	
			+		+
2 nd	non a te ^ to you a Lei to you	non a voi ^ to you all		-piacciono like / please	
3 rd	non a lui ^ to him a lei to her	non a loro ^ to them			
				-il mio collega	(my companion)
				-la vostra cravatta	(your tie)
				-il Piano di Salvezza	(the Plan of Salvation)
				-il presidente...	(president ...)
				-la Bibbia	(the Bible)
				-il Libro di Mormon	(the B of M)
				-i suoi vicini	(your neighbors)
				-le vostre case	(your homes)
				-i nostri amici	(our friends)
				-partire	(to leave)
				-andare	(to go)
				-mangiare	(to eat)
				-dormire	(to sleep)
				-studiare	(to study)
				-parlare italiano	(to speak Italian)
				-conversare	(to talk / converse)

Examples:

Q. **A Lei piace dormire?** A. **Sì, a me piace dormire.** A. **No, a me non piace dormire.**
Do you like to sleep? Yes, I do like to sleep. No, I don't like to sleep.

Note: When speaking about one thing, in the singular, use **piace**.

When speaking about things, in the plural, use **piacciono**, as shown below.

Examples:

- I like (to me pleases) the Book of Mormon = **a me + piace + il libro di Mormon.**
- I like (to me please) the Books of Mormon = **a me + piacciono + i libri di Mormon**
- She likes (to her pleases) that one member = **a lei + piace + quel membro**
- She likes (to her please) those members = **a lei + piacciono + quei membri**
- We like (to us pleases) to sing = **a noi + piace + cantare**
- He likes (to him pleases) to play = **a lui + piace + giocare**

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

9. Asking / Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, Intention – Part 3

- *To be able to ...*

Potere = to be able to / can

<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>		
non*		non		
1 st	io ^ posso <i>I can</i>	noi ^ possiamo <i>we can</i>	+	-aiutare i bambini <i>(to help the children)</i>
				-cantare gli inni <i>(to sing hymns)</i>
				-fare un discorso <i>(to give a talk)</i>
2 nd	non tu ^ puoi <i>you can</i>	non voi ^ potete <i>you can</i>		-scrivere una lettera <i>(to write a letter)</i>
	Lei può <i>you can</i>			-leggere la Bibbia <i>(to read the Bible)</i>
				-cucinare <i>(to cook)</i>
				-partire presto <i>(to leave soon)</i>
				-andare con te <i>(to go with you)</i>
3 rd	non lui ^ può <i>he can</i>	non loro ^ possono <i>they can</i>		-mangiare a casa nostra <i>(to eat at our place)</i>
	lei può <i>she can</i>			-dormire nella camera <i>(to sleep in the bedroom)</i>
				-studiare con te <i>(to study with you)</i>
				-parlare italiano <i>(to speak Italian)</i>
				-conversare con noi <i>(to converse with us)</i>

Examples:

Q. Noi possiamo parlare italiano?

Can we speak Italian?

A. Sì, voi potete parlare italiano. A. No, voi non potete parlare italiano.

Yes, you can speak Italian.

No, you can not speak Italian

Notice how:

potere (to be able to)... are always followed by a verb in its infinite form.

sapere (to know how to)...

dovere (to must to)...

volere (to want to)...

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

10. Asking / Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, Intention – Part 4

- To know how to ...

Sapere = to know how to / to know

	<u>Singular</u> non*	<u>Plural</u> non
1 st	io ^ so <i>I know</i>	noi ^ sappiamo <i>we know</i>
2 nd	non tu ^ sai <i>you know</i> Lei sa <i>you know</i>	non voi ^ sapete <i>you know</i>
3 rd	non lui ^ sa <i>he knows</i> lei sa <i>she knows</i>	non loro ^ sanno <i>they know</i>

+

-fare il lavoro	(to do the work)
-cantare gli inni	(to sing hymns)
-fare discorsi	(to give talks)
-scrivere le lettere	(to write letters)
-leggere la Liahona	(to read the Liahona)
-cucinare le lasagne	(to cook lasagna)
-studiare le scritture	(to study the scriptures)
-pregare in italiano	(to pray in Italian)
-fare il mio letto	(to make my bed)
-fare il bucato	(to do the laundry)
-suonare il piano	(to play the piano)
-parlare italiano	(to speak Italian)
-che la chiesa è vera	(that the church is true.)
-che il Libro di Mormon è vero	(that the B of M is true)
-che Dio vive	(that God lives)

Examples:

Q. **Lei sa pregare?** A. **Sì, io so pregare.** A. **No, io non so pregare.**
Do you know how to pray? Yes, I know how to pray. No, I don't know how to pray.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

Notice how: **potere** (to be able to)... are always followed by a verb in its infinite form.
sapere (to know how to)...
dovere (to must to)...
volere (to want to)...

11. Asking / Expressing Desire, Need, Preference, Ability, Intention – Part 5

- To need to / must ...

Dovere = to need to / must

	Singular non*	Plural non
1 st	io ^ devo <i>I must</i>	noi ^ dobbiamo <i>we must</i>
2 nd	tu ^ devi <i>you must</i> Lei deve <i>you must</i>	voi ^ dovete <i>you must</i>
3 rd	lui ^ deve <i>he must</i> lei deve <i>she must</i>	loro ^ devono <i>they must</i>

+

- finire i miei studi (to finish my studies)
- fare il mio lavoro (to do my work)
- scrivere una lettera (to write a letter)
- leggere il Libro di Mormon (to read the B of M)
- cucinare gli spaghetti (to cook spaghetti)
- partire con te (to leave with you)
- andare rapidamente (to go quickly)
- mangiare a casa nostra (to eat at our place)
- dormire nella camera (to sleep in the bedroom)
- studiare la Bibbia (to study the Bible)
- parlare in italiano (to speak Italian)
- fare il mio bucato (to do my laundry)

Examples:

Q. Loro devono scrivere una lettera? A. Sì, loro devono scrivere. A. No, loro non devono scrivere.
Do they need to write a letter? Yes, they need to write. No, they don't need to write.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

To need something is usually expressed with the expression **avere bisogno di** as outlined below.

	Singular non*	Plural non*		
1 st	io ^ ho <i>I have</i>	noi ^ abbiamo <i>we have</i>		aiuto (help)
				soldi (money)
				informazioni (information)
				nuovi amici (new friends)
2 nd	tu ^ hai <i>you have</i>	voi ^ avete <i>you have</i>	+	bisogno di +
				(need of)
				dormire (to sleep)
				studiare (to study)
				lavorare (to work)
3 rd	lui ^ ha <i>he has</i>	loro ^ hanno <i>they have</i>		
	lei ha <i>she has</i>			

12. Asking / Describing Actions and Events – Part 1 (Verbs ending in “are”)

- This lesson focuses on conjugating verbs that end in “are” in the present tense. Remove the “are” to obtain the stem, then add to the stem the appropriate endings, as shown below:

<u>Subject</u>		<u>Stem</u>	<u>-ARE Endings</u>			
Io - I		*insegn_ (to teach)				parlare (to speak)
Il presidente - The President		*continu_ (to continue)	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>		cucinare (to cook)
Giovanni - Giovanni	non +	*spieg_ (to explain)	(I) -o	(we) -iamo	+ *a +	essere paziente (to be patient)
María - Maria	(not)	*parl_ (to speak)	(you) -i	(you -ate plural)		il vangelo (the gospel)
Lui - He		cant_ (to sing)	-a			la dottrina (the doctrine)
I figli - The sons		studi_ (to study)				le scritture (the scriptures)
Noi - We		visit_ (to visit)				la lingua (the language)
Loro - They		ascolt_ (to listen)	(he/she) -a	(they) -ano		un inno (a hymn)
Tu - You		prepar_ (to prepare)				una lezione (a lesson)

Examples:

Q. Noi insegniamo un colloquio?

Do we teach a discussion?

A. Sì, insegniamo un colloquio. A. No, non insegniamo un colloquio.

Yes, we do teach a discussion.

No, we don't teach a discussion.

***Note:** these verbs require the “a” when they are followed by an infinitive. Ex: **Io insegno a cucinare** (I teach to cook); etc.

***Negative:** Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

13. Asking / Describing Actions and Events – Part 2 (Verbs ending in “ere”)

- This lesson focuses on conjugating verbs that end in “**ere**” in the present tense. Remove the “**ere**” to obtain the stem, then add to the stem the appropriate endings, as shown below:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Stem</u>	<u>-ERE Endings</u>		
		<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	
Il presidente - The President	*chied_ (to ask)			seguire (to follow)
Gli anziani - The Elders	*smett_ (to quit)	(I) -o	(we) -iamo	leggere (to read)
Maria - Maria	*decid_ (to decide)			scrivere (to write)
L'amico - The friend	*tem_ (to fear)	(you) -i	(you -ete plural)	+ *di
Io - I	+ non + (not) conosc_ (to know)	-e		le scritture (the scriptures)
Tu - You	viv_ (to live)			il vangelo (the gospel)
Noi - We	legg_ (to read)	(he/she) -e	(they) -ono	i comandamenti (the commandments)
Loro - They	rispond_ (to answer)			la domanda (the question)
Io e Marta - Marta and I				

Examples:

Q. Loro vivono il vangelo? A. Sì loro vivono il vangelo. A. No, loro non vivono il vangelo.
Do they live the gospel? Yes, they do live the gospel. No, they don't live the gospel.

***Note:** these verbs require the “**di**” when they are followed by an infinitive. Ex: **Io smetto di leggere** (I quit reading); etc.

***Negative:** Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

14. Asking / Describing Actions and Events – Part 3 (Verbs ending in “ire”)

- This lesson focuses on conjugating verbs that end in “ire” in the present tense. Remove the “ire” to obtain the stem, then add to the stem the appropriate endings, as shown below:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Stem</u>	<u>-IRE Endings</u>		
		<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	
Io - I	dorm_ (to sleep)			
I missionari - The missionaries	part_ (to leave)	(I) -o	(we) -iamo	
Mio marito + non +	apr_ (to open)			
- My Husband (not)	copr_ (to cover)	(you) -i	(you) -ite	
Rosario - Rosario	nutr_ (to feed)	-e	plural	
Noi - We	off_ (to offer)			
Voi - You	scopr_ (to discover)	(he/she) -e	(they) -ono	
Le sorelle - The sisters				
I membri - The members				
Tu - You (familiar)				
La mia famiglia - My family				

a Provo (in Provo)
la porta (the door)
le lettere dai nostri nipoti
 (the letters from our grandchildren)
la verità (the truth)
la testimonianza (the testimony)
l' aiuto (the help)
per la riunione (for the meeting)
benedizioni da Dio (blessings from God)

Examples:

Q. Voi offrite aiuto? **A. Sì, noi offriamo aiuto.** **A. No, noi non offriamo aiuto.**
 Do you offer help? Yes, we offer help. No, we don't offer help.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

15. Asking / Describing Actions & Events – Part 4 (Irregular verbs ending in “ire”)

- Learn to form irregular “ire” verbs in the present tense (*pg.69 in Italian for Missionaries*).
- Create a simple display like the one shown below, and practice.

<u>Subject</u>		<u>Stem</u>		<u>Endings</u>		
Io - I		pul_ (to clean)		<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>	-la cappella (the chapel)
I missionari - The missionaries		prefer_ (to prefer)		(I) -isco	(we) -iamo	-la casa (the house)
Mio marito - My husband		guar_ (to heal)				-la chiesa (the church)
Rosario - Rosario	+ non +	cap_ (to understand)		(you) -isci	(you -ite plural)	-il cibo (the food)
Noi - We	(not)	ag_ (to act)	+	-isce		+ -un libro (a book)
Voi - You		fin_ (to finish)				-la lingua (the language)
Le sorelle - The sisters		trasfer_ (to transfer)		(he/she) -isce	(they) - iscono	-bene (well)
I membri - The members		costru_ (to build)				-male (bad)
Tu - You						-le scritture (the scriptures)
La mia famiglia - My family						

Examples:

Q. I membri puliscono la cappella? A. Sì, i membri puliscono. A.No, i membri non puliscono.
Do the members clean the chapel? Yes, they clean No, they don't clean

Note:

You will recognize an “isco verb” most likely, but not always, if you see vowel + consonant before the ending “ire”. For example: pulire or obbedire

Learn the verbs from the (center) list above, practice asking and answering questions in the affirmative and negative forms. Devote as much time as possible to the “Practice” activity.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

16. Asking / Describing Actions and Events – Part 1 (with “Avere” in the past)

- *I ate / have eaten the food*
- *They studied / have studied the scriptures.*

<u>Avere = to have</u>		<u>Past Participle</u>	
<u>Singular</u> non*	<u>Plural</u> non	voluto (wanted)	fare il lavoro (to do the work)
<i>1st</i> io ^ ho <i>I have</i>	noi ^ abbiamo <i>we have</i>	potuto (been able)	finire gli studi (to finish the studies)
		saputo (known how)	insegnare le lezioni (to teach the lessons)
		dovuto (had to)	leggere la Bibbia (to read the Bible)
<u>non</u>	<u>non</u>	fatto (done)	
<i>2nd</i> tu ^ hai <i>you have</i>	voi ^ avete <i>you have</i>	mangiato (eaten)	+ la pizza (the pizza)
Lei ha <i>you have</i>		studiato (studied)	+ le scritture (the scriptures)
		parlato (spoken)	in inglese (in English)
		letto (read)	una lettera (a letter)
<u>non</u>	<u>non</u>	pregato (prayed)	alcuni inni (some hymns)
<i>3rd</i> lui ^ ha <i>he has</i>	loro ^ hanno <i>they have</i>	scritto (written)	
lei ha <i>she has</i>		dormito (slept)	
		cantato (sung)	
		avuto (had)	

Examples:

Q. Voi avete mangiato la pizza?

Have you eaten/ate the pizza?

A. Sì, noi abbiamo mangiato la pizza.

Yes, we have eaten/ate the pizza.

A. No, noi non abbiamo mangiato la pizza.

No, we haven't eaten/ate the pizza.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

**Interrogative are expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

The usage of *avere* is determined most likely if the verb is transitive or intransitive. A transitive verb is a verb that carries a direct object (answers the question “what?”). For example the verb *mangiare* (to eat) is transitive because you can ask the question, To eat what? Eat a sandwich, a pizza, etc. The verb *ballare* (to dance) what? Tango, waltz, etc, therefore the verb is intransitive. In the past you say *ho mangiato*, *ho ballato*, etc.

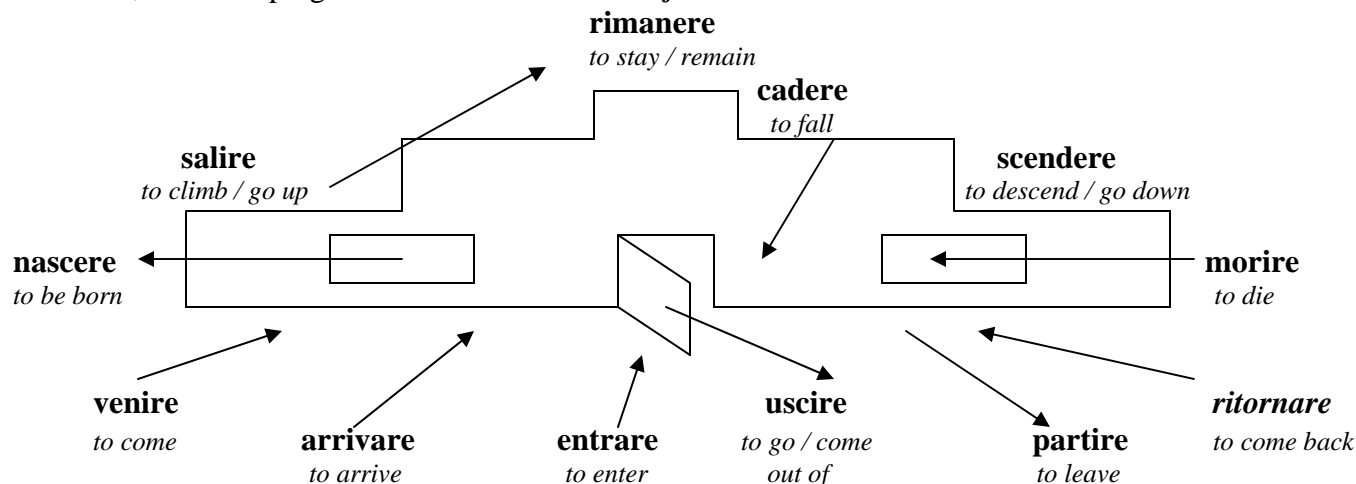
Notice: verbs that end in **–are** change in **–ato** (ex. **mangi -are = mangi -ato**)

verbs that end in **–ere** change in **–uto** (ex. **vol -ere = vol -uto**)

verbs that end in **–ire** change in **–ito** (ex. **fin -ire = fin -ito**)

17. Asking / Describing Actions and Events – Part 2 (with “essere” in the past)

As shown in the previous lesson, almost all verbs in Italian require the use of the helper verb “*avere*”, plus the past participle, to form the compound past. There are a few key verbs, however, whose actions can be visualized on or around the diagram shown below, which require the use of “*essere*”, instead of *avere*, as the helping verb. Call it “*the house of essere*”.



<u>Essere = to be</u>					
	<u>Singular</u>		<u>Plural</u>		
	non*		non		
1st	io ^ sono <i>I am</i>		noi ^ siamo <i>we are</i>		
	non		non		
2nd	tu ^ sei <i>you are</i>		voi ^ siete <i>you are</i>		
	Lei ^ è <i>you are</i>				
	non		non		
3rd	lui ^ è <i>he is</i>		loro ^ sono <i>they are</i>		
	lei è <i>she is</i>				

Participle		
stato / a (<i>been</i>)		
andato / a (<i>gone</i>)		in America (<i>in America</i>)
entrato / a (<i>entered</i>)		in casa (<i>into the house</i>)
arrivato / a (<i>arrived</i>)		a mezzogiorno (<i>at noon</i>)
rimasto / a (<i>stayed</i>)		a casa nostra (<i>at our place</i>)
caduto / a (<i>fell</i>)		dalla casa (<i>from the house</i>)
morto / a (<i>died</i>)		con lei (<i>with you</i>)
uscito / a (<i>went out</i>)		a mangiare (<i>to eat</i>)
venuto / a (<i>came</i>)		dai membri (<i>to the member's</i>)
salito / a (<i>climbed</i>)		
partito / a (<i>left</i>)		
ritornato / a (<i>came back</i>)		

Examples:

Q. Voi siete andati in America?

Have you gone to America

A. Sì, noi siamo andati in America.

Yes, I have gone to America.

A. No, noi non siamo andati in America.

No, I haven't gone to America.

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

Agreement: Notice that when using “*essere*” as the helper verb, the past participle must always agree in number and in gender with the subject, as shown in the examples above. This is not true when using “*avere*” as the helping verb.

18. Asking / Answering Questions of Time, Place, Purpose – Part 1

- **Come...** -**Come** potete aiutare i vostri fratelli e sorelle?
(how) -*How can you help your brothers and sisters?*
- **Perché...** -***Perché** vuoi imparare l'italiano?
(why) -*Why do you want to learn Italian?*
- **Dove ...** -**Dove** andiamo a mangiare?
(where) -*Where are we going to eat?*
- **Cosa/Che ...** -**Cosa** vuoi fare? **Che** vuoi fare?
(what) -*What do you want to do?*
- **Quale...** -**Quale** è la chiesa più vicina?
(which) -*Which one is the closest church?*
- **Quando...** -**Quando** hai letto il Libro di Mormon?
(when) -*When did you read the Book of Mormon?*

*Perché also means “because”.

Activity: Sampling verbs learned up to this point, ask questions in the present, past, and near future, using the interrogatives shown above, and respond.

Practice: Continue the above activity as companions or with your tutor.

19. Asking / Answering Questions of Time, Place, Purpose – Part 2 (*Telling Time*)

- Learn the numbers in preparation for learning how to tell time.
- Next, learn how to tell time in Italian. Create a simple display, showing a clock, and practice until you feel comfortable telling time.
- Once you feel comfortable telling time, practice asking and answering questions like “**A che ora siete arrivati?**” (*At what time did you arrive?*), and tie it in with the principles just taught in Part 1 of this section.

Q. Quando (when)		è (is)		l'appuntamento? (the appointment?)
				la cena? (dinner?)
A che ora (At what time)	+	sono (are)	+	la festa? (the party?)
				la riunione? (the meeting?)
				il trasferimento? (the transfer?)
				il battesimo? (the baptism?)
				l'intervista? (the interview?)

A. la festa (the party)		è (is)		alle 5 (at 5 am)	e un quarto (and 1/4)
l'appuntamento (the appointment)				alle 6 (at 6 am)	e mezzo (and 1/2)
la riunione (the meeting)				alle 7 (at 7 am)	meno un quarto (- 1/4)
il trasferimento (the transfer)	+	sono (are)	+		meno 20, 10, 5 (- 40, 50, 55)
l'intervista (the interview)				alle 13 (at 1 pm)	
				alle 17 (at 5 pm)	e 10, 20, 25, 35 (10, 20, 25, 35)
				alle 23 (at 11 Pm)	
				a mezzogiorno (at noon)	

Examples:

Q. Che ore sono?
What time is it?

A. Sono le due.
It is two o'clock.

A. Sono le tre.
It is three o'clock.

Q. A che ora è la riunione?
At what time is the meeting?

A. È alle diciassette.
It is at 5 pm.

Note: When you use the 24-hour clock, the minutes are indicated numerically. Ex: 13:30 (*tredici e trenta*). When you use the 12-hour clock the minutes might also be indicated using abbreviations such as a quarter, and a half, etc. Ex: 6 e mezzo, 8 e un quarto, etc. It might be helpful to learn how to say “*della mattina*” (AM) and “*della sera*” (PM).

20. Asking / Answering Questions of Time, Place, Purpose – Part 3 (*The Date*)

- Learn the days of the week and the months of the year, in preparation for learning to express the date
- Next, create a simple display like the one shown below, which will help keep the pattern in mind:

Q.	Quando (When)		è (is)		l'appuntamento? (the appointment?)
					la cena? (the dinner?)
	Che giorno (What day)	+	sono (are)	+	il compleanno? (the birthday?)
					la riunione? (the meeting?)
					i trasferimenti? (the transfers?)
					il battesimo? (the baptism?)
					l'intervista? (the interview?)

A.

Weekday		Day of Month		Month	Year
lunedì	(Mon)	20	(the 20 th)	gennaio	(Jan) 1820
martedì	(Tues)	24	(the 24 th)	febbraio	(Feb) 1957
mercoledì	(Wed)	2	(the 2 nd)	marzo	(Mar) 2007
giovedì	(Thu)	10	(the 10 th)	aprile	(Apr) 2021
venerdì	(Fri)	31	(the 31 st)	maggio	(May) 1995
sabato	(Sat)	18	(the 18 th)	giugno	(June) 1985
domenica	(Sun)	il primo	(the 1 st)	luglio	(July) 2006
				agosto	(Aug) 2008
				settembre	(Sep)
				ottobre	(Oct)
				novembre	(Nov)
				dicembre	(Dec)

Examples:

Q. Che giorno è l'appuntamento? **A. L'appuntamento è lunedì 20 Ottobre 2003.**
What day is the appointment? The appointment is on Monday the 20th of October 2003.

Note: months and days of the week DO NOT need to be capitalized, an article can be used in front of the day of the month if the day of the week is not expressed, example: *lunedì 2 gennaio* or *il 2 gennaio*, but not *lunedì il 2 gennaio*.

21. Narrating Simple Experiences / Stories in the Past – Part 1 (Conceptual Practice)

- Narrating events in the past in Italian usually involves the use of two different past tenses. One you have already learned, and the other you will learn in this section.
- **The compound past**, which you have already learned, in which the helper verbs “**avere**” and “**essere**” are used, along with the past participle. (ex: **lui è partito** / **noi abbiamo mangiato**). This compound tense *describes events that occurred in a sequence or order*, one after another. (ex: I “got up”, then “I saw” ..., then someone “said” ..., etc., etc.).
- **The Imperfect past**, which you will learn in this section, *describes the setting* in which the events occurred, and *describes actions or events which occurred habitually in the past*, and is usually expressed in English by the words “*was*”, “*were*”, “*would*” or “*used to*”. (ex: It “was” a cold, rainy day ..., everyone “was” cold ..., we “were hoping” ..., on days like this “we would” or “used to” build a big fire to keep us all warm ...).
- Before learning how to form the imperfect tense in Italian, conduct a “conceptual practice” by telling the Joseph Smith story in English. Each time you come to an action or verb, indicate whether that action is “descriptive”, requiring the imperfect tense, or if the action is “sequential”, requiring the compound past. Include as many actions as possible. (ex: Joseph “was concerned” about ..., he “decided” he would pray. It “was” a beautiful morning. He “got up” early. He “got dressed”. He “was” very careful to not wake ... He “went out” of the house, and “went” down the path. The birds “were singing”, etc. etc.)

22. Narrating Simple Experiences / Stories in the Past – Part 2

- Learn to form the imperfect tense, and work through some of the exercises.
- Create a simple display like the one shown below, and practice.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Stem</u>	<u>Imperfect Endings</u>	
Io - I	insegn -are (to teach)	<u>singular</u> <u>plural</u>	
I missionari - The missionaries	lavor -are (to work) -a	1 st -vo -vamo	-il vangelo (the gospel)
Mio marito - My husband	cant -are (to sing)		-la dottrina (the doctrine)
Rosario - Rosario	vol -ere (to want)	2 nd -vi -vate	-le scritture (the scriptures)
Noi - We	chied -ere (to ask) -e	-va	-la lingua (the language)
Voi - You	prefer -ire (to prefer)	3 rd -va -vano	-il cibo messicano (the Mexican food)
Le sorelle - The sisters	dorm -ire (to sleep)		-in un coro (in a choir)
I membri - The members	cap -ire (to understand) -i		-un inno (a hymn)
Tu - You			-molto (a lot)
La mia famiglia - My family			-dormire (to sleep)
			-lavorare (to work)

Examples:

Q. Noi pregavamo molto? A. Sì, noi pregavamo molto. A. No, noi non pregavamo molto.

Were we praying a lot?

Yes, we were praying a lot.

No, we weren't praying a lot.

Note: For verbs ending in **-are**, add **a** + the ending. For verbs ending in **-ere**, add **e** + the ending. For verbs ending in **-ire** add **i** + the ending.

Examples: mangiare = mangi + **a** + vo
cadere = cad + **e** + vo
salire = sal + **i** + vo

- Learn the verbs from the list above, practice asking and answering questions in the affirmative and negative forms. Devote as much time as possible to the “Practice” activity.
- Once you are confident using these verbs in the imperfect tense, take sufficient time to practice narrating several simple experiences or stories in the past, to your companion or tutor, using both the imperfect and the compound past tenses. Refer to the list of verbs you have learned up to this point to get ideas of things you know how to say.

***Negative:** Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

23. Narrating Simple Experiences / Stories in the Future

- Learn to form the future tense, and work through some of the exercises.
- Create a simple display like the one shown below, and practice.

<u>Subject</u>		<u>Stem</u>			<u>Future Endings:</u>	
Io - I		insegn -are (to teach)				
I missionari - The missionaries		lavor -are (to work)	-e			-il vangelo (the gospel)
Mio marito - My husband		cant -are (to sing)			1 st -rò	-remo
Rosario - Rosario		perd -ere (to lose)	-e		2 nd -rai	-rete
Noi - We	+ non + (not)	chiede -ere (to ask)	+ +		-rà	+ -il cibo messicano (The Mexican food)
Voi - You		prefer -ire (to prefer)			3 rd -rà	-ranno
Le sorelle - The sisters		dorm -ire (to sleep)				-in un coro (in a choir)
I membri - The members		cap -ire (to understand)	-i			-un inno (a hymn)
Tu - You						-molto (a lot)
La mia famiglia - My family						-dormire (to sleep)
						-lavorare (to work)

Examples:

Q. Io guadagnerò molto? **A. Sì tu guadagnerai molto.** **A. No, tu non guadagnerai molto.**
Will I earn a lot? *Yes, you will earn a lot.* *No, you will not earn a lot.*

*Negative: Just add **non** before the verb.

Interrogatives: Expressed with an intonation of the voice at the end of the sentence.

Learn the verbs from the list above, practice asking and answering questions in the affirmative and negative forms. Devote as much time as possible to the “Practice” activity.